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EXCISE

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TO : [redacted] - Mr. J. J. Sisco

DATE: November 10, 1970

[redacted] - Mr. A. L. Atherton, Jr.

FROM : NEA/ARN - H. H. Stackhouse

SUBJECT: Briefing Material for your Lunch with Ambassador Rabin, Thursday, November 12

Attached at Tab A is briefing material dealing with Jewish settlements in East Jerusalem and Hebron and the Jaberi claim which was prepared for you last month when Foreign Eban was here. At that time you asked to be reminded to take up these topics with Ambassador Rabin; they were not discussed with Eban. Your lunch with Rabin November 12 might be an appropriate occasion.

If these subjects are raised at all by the USG with the Israelis, it is important that the GOI be convinced of our serious intent. We are not doing it simply for the record, or in a fashion to imply "Oh, by the way these are a couple of unimportant loose ends to be tidied up." We want the GOI to reply to our questions. Furthermore, the Hebron settlement should not be raised without mentioning what concerns us in Jerusalem, lest the GOI conclude that silence on Jerusalem indicates USG assent.

Since the attached material was prepared on Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Post has announced Ministry of Housing plans to begin building 2,600 apartments at the beginning of next year on the land expropriated in August. This demonstrates again the GOI intention to "create facts" quickly in Jerusalem; the attached (Tab B) November 1 Washington Post article by George Wilson shows what has already been done in housing construction in other areas of East Jerusalem.

Attachments:
1. Tab A - Briefing Material
2. Tab B - Washington Post article

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